

Health and Wellness Minutes- Commission on Aging Meeting May 3, 2022

Attendees:

Barbara Selter, Neal Brown, Marsha Weber, Eddie Rivas, David Engel, Wayne Berman, Virginia Cain, Betsy Carrier, Tina Purser-Langley, Laurie Pross

Guest: Marcia Pruzan

The “Transitions” subgroup has met and reports the following highlights:

-Focusing on why planning is important

-Goal is to provide a Resource guide, culturally sensitive, aimed both at the older adult population and at their children is the desired goal

-Cognizant of the multiple resources already available, focusing on how best to “get the word out”- factsheet and online; Focus-testing was suggested by Marcia.

Discussion of Budget Priorities for 2023:

These areas were brought up and we will have a follow up discussion at our June meeting:

1. Access Hears – consider funding on an ongoing basis;
2. In Home care – may consider support for IHAS;
3. Senior Fellow position;
4. Food security for low income seniors (may be a focus of AIC);
5. Support for Assisted Living and Nursing Home evaluation staff;
6. More attention to Covid-related issues;
7. Increasing pay for direct care workers;
8. Palliative Medicine

Additionally, Mental Health came up as a possible priority. Barbara Selter reported that Dr. Crowell has noted that both ends of the generational spectrum have suffered negative psychological effects from Covid. It may be a timely moment to increase intergenerational endeavors!

Neal Brown emphasized the eventual need to differentiate among the action vs. advocacy vs. budget items.

Marcia Pruzan announced that there will be an Age Friendly Summit on October 12, 2022.